



City of Alexandria

Transportation Commission

Regular Meeting

May 2, 2012

7:30 p.m.

City Council Workroom

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Mayor Bill Euille, Donna Fossum, Jesse Jennings, Councilman Rob Krupicka, Jennifer Mitchell, Kevin Posey, Philip Voorhees, Louisa Ward, and Justin Wilson

Staff Present: Rich Baier – T&ES, Karen Callahan – T&ES, Faye Dastgheib – T&ES, Steve Kaii-Ziegler – P&Z, Jeff Farner – P&Z, Abi Lerner -T&ES, Sandra Marks – T&ES, Marti Reinfeld - T&ES, Steve Sindiong - T&ES

A quorum being present, the Chair called the Transportation Commission meeting to order at 7:35pm.

1. April 4, 2012 Minutes

Staff Abi Lerner asked if there were any comments regarding the April 4, 2012 meeting minutes. Commissioner Fossum recommended approval as submitted. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Funding Update

T&ES staff, Abi Lerner reported:

City Council On April 24, 2012 Council approved an amendment to the budget for the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station Environmental Impact Statement; Council received a budget memorandum on April 24, 2012 related to costs associated with reactivating the In-Step/Complete Streets program and staff positions.

Commonwealth Transportation Board released the Draft 6-Year Improvement Program (FY2013-18); The City is preparing a response letter.

TPB TPB's Steering Committee approved a project to do preliminary engineering for the northbound auxiliary lane on I-395 between Duke Street and Seminary Road.

WMATA Board approved a proposal to raise transit fares in FY2013. Other portions of the budget will be considered in May 2012.

NVTC Endorsed the designation of how the local match for the Route 7 Transit Study would be provided. Attended Richmond's legislative session in which the Governor proposed that local land use plans must be in conformance with VDOT plans.

NVTA held no meetings over the last month. An Open House public meeting was held on April 18, 2012 for the TransAction 2040 plan.

3. Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study (Corridors A/B) – Public Hearing

Staff Steve Sindiong gave a brief background on the progression of the City's Transitway Corridor Feasibility Study and the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group (CWG). Mr. Sindiong stated the purpose of Transportation Commission's (Commission) public hearing is to seek additional public comments, for the Commission to review the recommendations made by the CWG for corridors A and B and for the Commission to vote on a recommendation to be forwarded to City Council. The following people spoke as part of the public hearing: David Fromm, 2307 E. Randolph Avenue; Christian Chase, 431 N. Patrick Street; Adam Froehlig, Tim Elliott, 422 S. Fairfax Street; Carolyn Nash, 523 N. West Street; Tim Lovain, 2606 Davis Avenue; John Gosling, 208 S. Fayette Street; Poul Hertel, 1217 Michigan Court; Van Van Fleet, 26 Wolfe Street; Heidi Ford, 1022 Oronoco Street; Bert Ely, 200 S. Pitt Street; Charlotte Landis, 433 N. Patrick Street; Shirley Ann Sanders-Steele, 516 N. Patrick Street; Peter Pennington, 1213 Prince Street; Sarah Becker, 1200 Princess Street; Katy Cannady, 20 E. Oak Street; Dino Drudi, 315 N. West Street; Amy Slack, 2307 E. Randolph Avenue; David Kaplan, 418 Queen Street; Boyd Walker, 1307 King Street; Jonathan Krall, Mason Avenue; Jim Moody, 308 Clover Way.

After hearing comments from the public and the Commission, a motion was made that concurs with the CWG's recommendation for Corridor A. The motion further recommends that Council explore the expansion of east-west services in Old Town using a community outreach process including a Commission public hearing prior to any action being taken. The motion encouraged staff to explore additional connectivity from Corridor B into Fairfax County via the Huntington Metrorail Station, and into Maryland via the Wilson Bridge, and that all findings be presented to the Transportation Commission and Council. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved 6 – 1. After there being no further comments on Corridor B, a motion was made to support the CWG's Corridor B recommendation for the combination alternatives of 1a and 3c and additional examination of on- and off-Duke Street bicycle facilities as the preferred approach for phased implementation of a dedicated transitway in Corridor B. The motion was seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.

4. Del Ray Parking Study

Staff Faye Dastgheib gave an overview on the Del Ray Parking Study. The study covers 30 City blocks. An evaluation of the parking supply was necessary to understand current conditions and develop strategies to better manage parking within the area. The study consists of community input received at two community meetings, data collected in the focus area and short and long term recommendations made as a result of the findings. The report was accepted by the Commission.

5. Beauregard Small Area Plan (Transportation) – Public Hearing

Staff Rich Baier gave an overview on the details and processes of the Beauregard Small Area Plan and the traffic analysis results. The purpose of the public hearing is for the Commission to receive the draft Beauregard Small Area Plan, to review the transportation recommendations for consistency with the Transportation Master Plan and make a recommendation to be forwarded to the Planning Commission and City Council. Commissioner Fossum reported that she will excuse herself as Commissioner during Planning and Transportation Commission public hearings involving the Beauregard Small Area Plan.

The following people spoke as part of the public hearing: Nancy Jennings, 2115 Marlboro Drive; Peter Pennington, 1213 Prince Street; David Cavanaugh, 4008 Fort Worth Avenue; Shirley Downs, 1007 N. Vail Street; Adam Froehlig; Lynn Bostain, 5695 Rayburn Avenue; Dianne Costello, 5840 Lowell Avenue; Sharon Annear, 1118 N. Howard Street; Boyd Walker, 1307 King Street; Kathleen Burns, 1036 N. Pelham Street; Annabelle Fisher, 5001 Seminary Road; Peter Benavage, 5066 Fairbanks Avenue; Cathy Puskar, 2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia.

After public comment and Commission's discussion, a motion was made to approve the transportation elements of the plan as it is consistent with the Transportation Master Plan. The motion was seconded, voted on and unanimously approved.

6. Staff Updates

Crystal City Potomac Yard Transitway - A public meeting to discuss the layout and elements of the facility was held on April 18, 2012 at Cora Kelly Recreation Center. Staff is working to determine additional pedestrian visibility elements and finalize the 90% design to be presented as a second public meeting in mid-June. At that meeting, the community will have an opportunity to comment on the three concept designs for the station amenities.

Potomac Yard Metrorail Station - A public meeting was held on April 19, 2012 at Cora Kelly Recreation Center to discuss the three build alternatives. Work continues on the analysis and determination of impacts of each of the three build alternatives.

7. Commission Updates

Commissioner Wilson reminded all that the Commission previously passed a resolution urging Council to support the In-Step Program.

The Commission decided on an alternative date of July 11, 2012 for the July monthly meeting, due to the July 4th Holiday.

7. Other Business

None.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made at 12:15 a.m., seconded and unanimously accepted.